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Group Art Unit: 2174

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Fax #: 703- 746-7239

FROM: J.B.KRAFT

Tel No: 512- 473-2303

SN
~~Docket No.~~ 845,463 ~~Serial No~~ Docket No AUS920010247 Atty: J B KRAFT

Applicant: C. N. Ulman et al.

✓ Transmittal Letter (2 copies) ____ Certificate of Facsimile

____ Preliminary Amendment ____ Notice of Appeal

✓ Amendment ∧∧ ____ Appeal Brief (3 copies)

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____ Other __

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

DOCKET NUMBER: AUS920010249US1
Date: ___5-17-04___

In re application of: C. N. Ulmann et al.

Serial No.: 09/845,463

Filed: April 30, 2001

For: PROVIDING ALTERNATE ACCESS FOR PHYSICALLY IMPAIRED USERS TO ITEMS NORMALLY DISPLAYED IN DROP-DOWN MENUS ON USER-INTERACTIVE DISPLAY INTERFACES

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Transmitted herewith is a Response in the above-identified Application.

__X__ No additional fee is required.

____ The fee has been calculated as shown below:

	Claims Remaining After Amendment		Highest No. Previously Paid For		Present Extra	Rate	Addit. Fee
Total	27	MINUS	27	=	0	x 18 =	$0
Indep.	3	MINUS	3	=	0	x 86 =	$0
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　　__X__ Any additional fees required under 37 CFR §1.16 for the presentation of extra claims.

　　__X__ Any patent application processing fees under 37 CFR §1.17.

Respectfully submitted,

By_____
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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of: : Group Art Unit: 2174
                               : Examiner: J. Golinkoff
Cristi N. Ullmann et al.   : Intellectual Property
Serial No: 09/845,461   : Law Department - 4054
Filed: 4/30/2001   : International Business
Title: PROVIDING ALTERNATE   : Machines Corporation
ACCESS FOR PHYSICALLY   : 11400 Burnet Road
IMPAIRED USERS TO ITEMS   : Austin, Texas 78758
NORMALLY DISPLAYED IN DROP   :
DOWN MENUS ON USER-   :
INTERACTIVE DISPLAY   :
INTERFACES   :
Date: _____ 5/17/04   :

CERTIFICATE OF FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that this correspondence including the
present Amendment and accompanying Transmittal letter is
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2174 at telephone number 703-746-7239, and to the attention
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J. B. KRAFT

_____   5/17/04
Signature   Date

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

AMENDMENT

Sir:

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In response to the Official Action mailed February 27, 2004, please amend the Application as follows.

Please amend the claims to read:

1. (currently amended) In a computer controlled user-inter-active display system, a display interface implementation for providing alternate access for physically impaired users to items normally displayed in drop down menus comprising:

means for displaying a sequential set of drop down menus, each having a plurality of selectable items;

selection means scrolled along each of said menus; and

means enabling a user to selectively display as an alternative to said set of menus, a hierarchical arrangement of selectable items corresponding to items in said set of menus; said hierarchical arrangement of items having a greater spatiality than the spatiality of items in said drop-down menus.

2. (original) The display interface implementation of claim 1 wherein:

the menus in said sequential set of drop down menus sequentially vary from each other in scope; and

said alternative hierarchical arrangement of selectable items is a tree of said items with sequential levels of varying scope respectively corresponding to the varying scope of said set of menus.

3. (original) The display interface implementation of claim 2 wherein said selectable items in said tree are icons.

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1   4. (original) The display interface implementation of claim
2   3 wherein said icons are varied in size so as to be opti-
3   mized to diminish the effects of the individual user's
4   impairment.

1   5. (original) The display interface implementation of claim
2   4 wherein said icons in said tree are varied in distance
3   from each other so as to be optimized to diminish the ef-
4   fects of the individual user's impairment.

1   6. (original) The display interface implementation of claim
2   4 further including:
3   means for tracking use characteristics of an individual
4   user; and
5   means responsive to said tracking means for dynamically
6   varying said sizes of said icons.

1   7. (original) The display interface implementation of claim
2   4 further including:
3   means for tracking use characteristics of an individual
4   user; and
5   means responsive to said tracking means for eliminating
6   rarely used icons from said tree.

1   8. (original) The display interface implementation of claim
2   6 wherein said means for tracking use characteristics of an
3   individual user includes:
4   means for counting the number of times that a plurality
5   of icons are selected; and
6   means responsive to said counting means for varying the
7   sizes of said icons relative to the selection counts of said
8   icons.

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1   9. (currently amended) A method for providing alternate
2   access for physically impaired users to items normally
3   displayed in drop down menus in computer controlled user-
4   interactive display systems comprising:
5   displaying a sequential set of drop down menus, each
6   having a plurality of selectable items;
7   enabling a user to select items from each of said menus
8   by scrolling along each of said menus; and
9   enabling a user to selectively display as an alterna-
10 tive to said set of menus, a hierarchical arrangement of
11 selectable items corresponding to items in said set of
12 menus:
13   said hierarchical arrangement of items having a greater
14 spatiality than the spatiality of items in said drop-down
15 menus.

1   10. (original) The method for providing alternate access for
2   physically impaired users of claim 9 wherein:
3   the menus in said sequential set of drop down menus
4   sequentially are varied from each other in scope; and
5   said alternative hierarchical arrangement of selectable
6   items is arranged in a tree of said items with sequential
7   levels of varying scope respectively corresponding to the
8   varying scope of said set of menus.

1   11. (original) The method for providing alternate access for
2   physically impaired users of claim 10 wherein said selectab-
3   le items in said tree are icons.

1   12. (original) The method for providing alternate access for
2   physically impaired users of claim 11 including the further
3   step of varying said icons in size to optimize said tree to
4   diminish the effects of the individual user's impairment.

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1 13. (original) The method for providing alternate access for
2 physically impaired users of claim 12 including the further
3 step of varying said icons in said tree in distance from
4 each other to optimize said tree to diminish the effects of
5 the individual user's impairment.

1 14. (original) The method for providing alternate access for
2 physically impaired users of claim 12 further including the
3 steps of:
4   tracking use characteristics of an individual user; and
5   dynamically varying said sizes of said icons responsive
6 to said tracking.

1 15. (original) The method for providing alternate access for
2 physically impaired users of claim 12 further including the
3 steps of:
4   tracking use characteristics of an individual user; and
5   dynamically eliminating rarely used icons from said
6 tree responsive to said tracking.

1 16. (original) The method for providing alternate access for
2 physically impaired users of claim 14 wherein said tracking
3 use characteristics of an individual user includes the steps
4 of:
5   counting the number of times that a plurality of icons
6 are selected; and
7   varying the sizes of said icons relative to the
8 selection counts of said icons.

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1   17. (currently amended) A computer program having program
2   code included on a computer readable medium for providing
3   alternate access for physically impaired users to items
4   normally displayed in drop down menus in computer controlled
5   user-interactive display systems comprising:
6   means for displaying a sequential set of drop down
7   menus, each having a plurality of selectable items;
8   selection means scrolled along each of said menus; and
9   means enabling a user to selectively display as an
10 alternative to said set of menus, a hierarchical arrangement
11 of selectable items corresponding to items in said set of
12 menus;
13   said hierarchical arrangement of items having a greater
14 spatiality than the spatiality of items in said drop-down
15 menus.

1   18. (original) The computer program of claim 17 wherein:
2   the menus in said sequential set of drop down menus
3   sequentially vary from each other in scope; and
4   said alternative hierarchical arrangement of selectable
5   items is a tree of said items with sequential levels of
6   varying scope respectively corresponding to the varying
7   scope of said set of menus.

1   19. (original) The computer program of claim 18 wherein said
2   selectable items in said tree are icons.

1   20. (original) The computer program of claim 19 wherein said
2   icons are varied in size so as to be optimized to diminish
3   the effects of the individual user's impairment.

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1   21. (original) The computer program of claim 20 wherein said
2   icons in said tree are varied in distance from each other so
3   as to be optimized to diminish the effects of the individual
4   user's impairment.

1   22. (original) The computer program of claim 20 further
2   including:
3   means for tracking use characteristics of an individual
4   user; and
5   means responsive to said tracking means for dynamically
6   varying said sizes of said icons.

1   23. (original) The computer program of claim 20 further
2   including:
3   means for tracking use characteristics of an individual
4   user; and
5   means responsive to said tracking means for eliminating
6   rarely used icons from said tree.

1   24. (original) The computer program of claim 22 wherein said
2   means for tracking use characteristics of an individual user
3   includes:
4   means for counting the number of times that a plurality
5   of icons are selected; and
6   means responsive to said counting means for varying the
7   sizes of said icons relative to the selection counts of said
8   icons.

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1 25. (original) The display interface implementation of claim
2 6 wherein said means for tracking use characteristics of an
3 individual user includes:
4   means for counting the number of times that a plurality
5 of icons are selected; and
6   means responsive to said counting means for varying the
7 locations of said icons in said hierarchical tree relative
8 to the selection counts of said icons.

1 26. (original) The method for providing alternate access for
2 physically impaired users of claim 14 wherein said tracking
3 use characteristics of an individual user includes the steps
4 of:
5   counting the number of times that a plurality of icons
6 are selected; and
7   varying the locations of said icons in said
8 hierarchical tree relative to the selection counts of said
9 icons.

1 27. (orginal) The computer program of claim 22 wherein said
2 means for tracking use characteristics of an individual user
3 includes:
4   means for counting the number of times that a plurality
5 of icons are selected; and
6   means responsive to said counting means for varying the
7 locations of said icons in said hierarchical tree relative
8 to the selection counts of said icons.

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